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Hello, and welcome to my web site on how to combat spyware. This page will help you stop spyware from infecting your PC. There are many pieces of software that you can use to prevent malware from accessing your computer. Not all have to be purchased either. Luckily, there are some very good anti-spyware software available out there for free. Which I and my staff have personally used to prevent and kill a numerous variety of spyware. I have them listed under the "Links" tab.

Malware (malicious software) comes in different forms. Such kinds are Viruses, Worms, Trojans, Keyloggers, Browsing Hijackers, and Rootkits to name a few. Each are defined by their behaviour and method of entry into your system. If you are interested in knowing more about malware and what each kind does you can find it here. Though now many creators of these malware are advancing their tactics to gain access to your computer. It has now become necessary to take the time to arm your computer to prevent any malware from taking control of your system. The four key essentials that are a must-have to guarding your system is having a great firewall, anti-virus, and anti-spyware and staying updated. Without these four key combinations.

Why you need a Firewall on your PC:

You need a firewall to stop hackers from getting into your PC. A firewall sits and monitors your Internet connection or LAN connection and blocks any bad activity like port scanning (from the hacker to see if you have any open ports that they could attack). Firewalls come in software or hardware. A firewall can also stop Trojans from getting into your PC and it can stop programs from "phoning home" to send companies your personal information. A good firewall that I trust is Comodo Firewall from <http://www.personalfirewall.comodo.com/index.html> It's a great firewall that does not take up your system resources like some other firewalls do and is recommended by many. There are 3 options you can select they are:

- **Deny all unknown** - This means it will deny all programs it doesn't know to access the Internet and will block them from doing so. It will only allow programs it knows, for example, Internet Explorer to go through.
- **Ask** - This will ask you when a program tries to access the Internet and will ask you a question "deny" or "permit" when a program tries to access the Internet.
- **Permit unknown** - (not recommended) this will let all programs it doesn't know through.

Why you need an Anti Virus Software:

You need an anti-virus because nowadays it is not safe to be on the Internet without one. If infected, your system helps the infection spread to others. You can get viruses from e-mails, e-mail attachments, downloaded programs of wares, web sites and p2p (peer-to-peer) networks like Kazza.

What an anti-virus does is watch every single file that comes in and out of the PC. If a virus is found your anti-virus program will alert you, contain or delete the virus and fix the file. If your strapped for money and want a decent anti-virus then I recommend AVG's Free Edition. Or if you feel you want a solid paid subscription then I would recommend you opt for NOD32.

Most people get infected by getting an attachment in an e-mail. Some attachments open the second the email is opened. This can be fixed by getting the latest Microsoft updates.

There should only be one anti-virus program on your computer. Two or more will cause conflicts to occur.

Why you need Anti Spyware Software.

Spyware is defined as software that is designed to acquire information such as personal or business data without your knowledge or consent. It is a invasion of your privacy and is considered to be online theft since users have not gave their permission to extract information from their computer. Some spyware can record the sites that you visit, track your browsing patterns, and even record the keystrokes that you enter.

You need an anti-spyware program on your PC because there are many ways you can get spyware. With some spyware you don't even know you are infected until you run a great anti-spyware program like SUPER AntiSpyware. I like SUPER AntiSpyware as it is an excellent scanner and it's free. Just be sure to update it often manually.

Some of the most common way people get infected by spyware is downloading a bundled software like Kazza Media Desktop which comes with lots of spyware. It's the only program I know of that, if you remove the spyware, Kazza won't run. Another kind of spyware is browser hijacking. Most common hijackers use Windows vulnerabilities to hijack your browser, i.e. taking over your Internet Explorer Home, Start, Search Pages and even BHOs (Browser Helper Objects) and DPFs (Downloaded Program Files).

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